

00684.003146.1

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)	
	:	Prior Examiner: P. Kim
Masayuki SUZUKI)	
	:	Prior Group Art Unit: 2851
Application No.: Divisional of Appln. No.)	
09/790,865, filed February 23, 2001	:	
)	
Filed: January 27, 2004	:	
)	
For: PROJECTION EXPOSURE	:	
APPARATUS)	January 27, 2004

Mail Stop Patent Application
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

In compliance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56 and in accordance with the practice under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98, the Examiner's attention is directed to the documents listed on the enclosed PTO-1449 form. Copies of the listed documents are also enclosed.

These documents were cited during prosecution of copending parent application number 09/790,865, filed February 23, 2001.

The Examiner's attention is also directed to copending U.S. patent application number 09/790,865, filed February 23, 2001, and published as U.S. patent application publication number 2002/0012107. A copy of the published application is also enclosed.

Japanese patent document numbers 10-10431 and 6-300973 are discussed on page 2 of the subject specification. Japanese patent document number 6-300973 corresponds to U.S. Patent No. 5,537,260, copy also enclosed.

Japanese patent document number 10-20195 is discussed on page 3 of the subject specification and corresponds to U.S. Patent No. 5,835,275, copy also enclosed.

Japanese patent document number 6-181162 corresponds to U.S. Patent No. 5,583,696, copy enclosed.

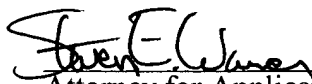
The published international application number WO 98/48451 generally corresponds to the published European patent application number 1 039 509, copy enclosed.

Applicant requests that the cited information be considered by the Examiner and that a copy of the enclosed PTO-1449 Form be initialed and returned indicating that such information has been considered.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the issuance of a first Office Action on the merits. Therefore, no fee under 37 C.F.R. 1.97(c)(2) is believed to be due. Nevertheless, the Commissioner may charge Deposit Account No. 06-1205, should any fee be due for filing this paper.

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington D.C. office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our address given below.

Respectfully submitted,



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SEW/eab

FORM PTO 1449 (modified) U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE LIST OF REFERENCES CITED BY APPLICANT(S) (Use several sheets if necessary) Filed: January 27, 2004				ATTY DOCKET NO. 00684.003146.1		APPLICATION NO. Divisional of Appln. No. 09/790,865, filed February 23, 2001	
				APPLICANT Masayuki SUZUKI			
				FILING DATE January 27, 2004		GROUP 2851	
U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS							
*EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
		US-5,311,362	05/10/1994	Matsumoto et al.	359	738	
		US-5,537,260	07/16/1996	Williamson	359	727	
		US-5,583,696	12/10/1996	Takahashi	359	637	
		US-5,729,331	03/17/1998	Tanaka et al.	355	53	
		US-5,835,275	11/10/1998	Takahashi et al.	359	629	
		US-5,835,284	11/10/1998	Takahashi et al.	359	726	
		US-6,249,382 B1	06/19/2001	Komatsuda	359	618	
		US-6,366,341 B1	04/02/2002	Shirato et al.	355	69	
		2002/0012107 A1	01/31/2002	Suzuki	355	52	
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION YES/NO/ OR ABSTRACT
		WO 98/48451 ✓	10/29/1998	PCT			Abstract
		1 039 509 ✓	04/17/1998	Europe			
		10-10431 ✓	01/16/1998	Japan			Abstract
		0 961 149 ✓	05/06/1999	Europe			Yes
		6-300973 ✓	10/28/1994	Japan			Abstract
		10-20195 ✓	01/23/1998	Japan			Abstract
		6-181162 ✓	06/28/1994	Japan			Abstract
OTHER DOCUMENT(S) (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)							
European Search Report dated August 19, 2003, issued in corresponding European patent appln. no. 01 30 1632, forwarded in a Communication dated August 27, 2003.							
EXAMINER				DATE CONSIDERED			

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.